

CLAIMS

1. Loading device for a semi-automatic rifle, said rifle comprising a barrel (2) in which a cartridge (3) may be inserted, operable by a loading and firing
5 mechanism (4), said device comprising a piston (12), slidable over a gas cylinder (11) of said rifle, which operates said loading and firing mechanism (4), and is actuated by a recovered portion of the gases generated by the combustion of the charge contained in the
10 cartridge, characterised in that it comprises a compressible and deformable toroidal, elastomeric body (20) capable of transmitting to said piston (12) the thrust generated by said recovered portion of gas in a thrust chamber (S).
- 15 2. Device according to claim 1, in which said toroidal, elastomeric body (20) encloses a sleeve (10) integral with said piston (12).
3. Device according to claim 2, in which said sleeve is slidable over said gas cylinder (11).
- 20 4. Device according to claim 2, in which said toroidal, elastomeric body (20) and said sleeve are inserted in a cylindrical body (8) joined at one of its ends to a support (9), connected to said barrel (2).
5. Device according to claim 4, in which said support
25 (9) comprises a channelling (7) which directs the gas recovered from the barrel toward the thrust chamber

(S).

6. Device according to claim 1, in which said sleeve comprises an annular portion (101) at one of its ends which is associated to piston (12), and at the opposite
5 end a control ring (17).

7. Device according to claim 6, in which said toroidal, elastomeric body is inserted between said annular portion and said control ring and is maintained in contact with the sleeve by way of an elastic ring
10 (18).

8. Device according to claim 7, in which said thrust chamber (S) is delimited by the control ring (17) by the outer surface of the gas cylinder (11) and by the walls of the support (9).

15 9. Device according to claim 8, in which said control ring (17) determines the thrust surface for the gases which come from the channelling (7) contained in said thrust chamber.

10. Device according to claim 9, in which said piston
20 (12) is maintained in contact with said sleeve (10) by way of an annular spring (15), enclosing said gas cylinder (11), and blocked at one of its ends by a shoulder (16) of said rifle butt (14).